

The Initiative Announces Its Founding Members of the Executive Council

The Initiative has established an Executive Council to lead the fundraising efforts of its activities in Boston and in the region. Harvard School of Public Health Dean Barry Bloom recently nominated a group of extremely qualified individuals to serve on the Council for an initial five-year term. We are truly grateful to them for their willingness to work with us to ensure the success of our fundraising goals. Following are the names of these founding members:

- **John Brademas, Ph.D.**,
President *Emeritus*,
New York University
- **Philip Christopher**,
President and CEO,
UT Star Audiovox
Communications
- **Harriet Mayor Fulbright**,
President, Fulbright International
Center
- **Walid Khadduri, Ph.D.**,
Head of Economic Affairs Section,
Dar Al-Hayat Newspaper
- **Achilleas Kyprianou**,
Managing Director, Kreon Trading
and Investment Limited
- **Peter Papanicolaou**,
President, JF Contracting Corporation
- **Photos Ja. Photiades, Ph.D.**,
President, Carlsberg Brewing
Company
- **Yiannis T. Triphyllis**,
Director, Gourdomichalis
Maritime S.A.

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Cyprus Takes a Leadership Role in Promoting Collaboration at Regional Meeting

On October 10, President Tassos Papadopoulos and Minister Yiorgos Lillikas hosted a ministerial meeting in Nicosia to promote regional collaboration. The government of Cyprus invited governmental representatives from 13 countries in the



President Tassos Papadopoulos

region, the European Union, as well as special guests, to join Dean Barry R. Bloom to discuss issues of common concern in environmental and public health.

Participants expressed their interest in collaborating with the Initiative to craft a scientific agenda for the region and find innovative solutions to the problems of air and water pollution and their effects on human

health, chronic disease, and occupational health and safety. Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) faculty will work with regional governments, a cadre of internationally-renowned scientists, and the business sector to organize an international conference in

Nicosia in the fall of 2006 to share critical research in these priority areas.

On the following day, the Cyprus International Institute hosted a special event to celebrate its launching in Nicosia and a public lecture at Cyprus College at which Dean Bloom delivered an address entitled "The Challenges of Public Health in the New Millennium".

Dean Bloom Travels to Athens, Greece

Following the ministerial meeting, Dean Bloom traveled to Athens to meet with Harvard alumni at a reception hosted by the Harvard Club of Greece. Dean Bloom delivered an inspiring keynote address in which he described the role of the HSPH in working to improve the health of the world's population in the areas of infectious disease, increasingly important chronic disease, unnecessary envi-



Dean Barry Bloom makes remarks at Harvard Club of Athens event. First row: H.E. Mr. Yiorgos Lillikas, Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism, Republic of Cyprus, and his wife, Barbara Petropoulou-Lillikas

The Initiative's First Students Have Arrived at HSPH

The faculty of the Harvard School of Public Health is pleased to announce the arrival of the first six students from the region to begin their course of study at HSPH in Boston. Following is a short description of their professional experience and research interests:

- **Ezgi Alhoun,**
Master's Student in Environment Health
Vanderbilt University, Bachelor of Electrical and Biomedical Engineering, 2005
Nationality: Turkish Cypriot
- **Teresa Chahine,**
Ph.D. in Environmental Health
Masters, American University of Beirut, Lebanon, 2002
Nationality: Lebanese
- **Stalo Karageorgi,**
Doctoral Student in Environmental Health
Imperial College of London, Master of Science in Molecular Medicine, 2005
University of Texas at Austin, Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, 2004
Nationality: Cypriot
- **Angeliki Lambrou,**
Doctoral Student in Environmental Health
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, School of Nursing, 2003, Master of Public Health, 2003
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, School of Nursing, Degree of Nursing, 2001
Nationality: Cypriot
- **Nicos Middleton,**
Postdoctoral Fellow in Environmental Health
University of Bristol, England, Ph.D. in Epidemiology, 2004
London School of Economics, Master of Science in Health Care Decision Analysis, 1998
University College, London, Bachelor of Science in Statistics and Operational Research, 1997
Nationality: Cypriot
- **Vasileios Papapostolou,**
Master's Student in Environmental Health
National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), Master's in Chemical Engineering, 2003 Nationality: Greek

We plan to continue to attract the best candidates from the region who will make a significant impact on the fields of environmental and public health. Our goal is to accept five of these candidates into masters, doctoral, and post-doctoral programs at HSPH who will be supported by the HSPH-Cyprus Initiative.

CII Launches Its Continuing Education Program in September 2005

In September of 2005, the Cyprus International Institute in Environmental Health (CII) launched its Continuing Education Program designed to provide professionals with intensive training in public health. This program offers mid-career professionals in public health a unique experience to study in Cyprus with a multi-disciplinary team of faculty from Harvard University. More than fifty participants from ten countries signed up for the first course held in September. Below is a description of the course offerings for the fall of 2005:

- **Obesity and Diabetes**
September 20-22, 2005
Dr. Christos Mantzoros, Associate Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital, Boston
- **Fundamentals of Occupational Health: Basic Prevention & Clinical Principles**
November 7-9, 2005
Dr. Stefanos Kales, Assistant Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Dr. Tom Smith, Professor of Industrial Hygiene
Department of Environmental Health,
Harvard School of Public Health

PEOPLE, PLACES, AND EVENTS



Press Conference at Ministerial Meeting. From left to right: Petros Koutrakis, Director of HSPH-Cyprus Program; Barry R. Bloom, Dean, HSPH; H.E. Mr. Yorgos Lillikas, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, Republic of Cyprus; John Lichten, Dean for Administration and Finance, HSPH; Philip Demokritou, Director, CII; Joseph D. Brain, Philip and Cecil Professor of Environmental Health, HSPH.

CII will Launch Its Post-Graduate Program in Environmental Health in Sept. 2006

Thirty-five Harvard faculty members from the University have come together to offer a Post-Graduate Program in Cyprus. The Program is a 12-month post-graduate program offering intensive training in the field of environmental health.

In September 2006, the Program will enroll its first cohort of twenty of the most highly-qualified students from the region to begin their course of study. Using case studies, student presentations, and computer workshops, the Program will prepare them for leadership positions in government and international organizations, consulting, private industry, and research. Graduates will be proficient in the full range of environmental health and public health protection practices and research, and be prepared to be competitive applicants for further doctoral studies. A scholarship will be available for qualified Greek- or Cypriot-American candidates to come to the region for further study and training.

During January 2007, students from the HSPH will travel to Cyprus to study with their European counterparts at the CII offering them the opportunity to share ideas and learn from each other in a collaborative teaching environment.

The Initiative's Fundraising Plan

The overall cost of the Initiative's activities in Boston and in Cyprus will total US \$70 million over the next ten years. The Republic of Cyprus has generously pledged half of this total or US \$34 million to provide both current use and endowment funding for the Initiative's activities in Boston and in the region. The Initiative has developed a comprehensive development plan to raise the remaining US \$36 million needed from individuals, corporations, and foundations. In addition, HSPH faculty will work with U.S. and international organizations to secure substantial research grants.

The Initiative hosted two successful events this year to celebrate its launching. In May, we held our first event at the Harvard Club of New York City. Two hundred guests joined us on this occasion to learn more about the Initiative, its mission, and its needs. Special guests included Senator Paul Sarbanes, (D), Maryland, and His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church of America. In June, we hosted our second event in London, at which members of the U.K.-based Cypriot and Greek community joined us to meet Professor Joseph Brain of the Harvard School of Public Health.

We hope to meet you at subsequent events this year planned in Boston, New York, Washington, and in Europe.

For more information please contact Monique Bertic at 001-617-384-8987 or mbertic@hsph.harvard.edu.



Celebration Ceremony at CII. From left to right: George Georgiades, Board of Directors, CII; Philip Demokritou, Director, CII; Dr. Kazem Behbehani, Former Assistant Director-General, WHO; Harriet M. Fulbright, Chairman, Fulbright International Center; H.E. Yiorgos Lillikas, Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism, Republic of Cyprus; Barry R. Bloom, Dean, HSPH; John Lichten, Dean for Administration and Finance, HSPH; Petros Koutrakis, Director, HSPH-Cyprus Program



Greek Alumni Greet Dean Bloom at the Ilias Lalounis Museum. From left to right: Dr. Chris D. Sfatos, Director of International Relations, Intracom SA, MA 93, Ph.D. 95; Kallia Kambouridou, KSG 2001; Nicholas Yatromanolakis, KSG 2001; Sorin Kertesz, KSG, 2002; Elaine M. Papoulias, Director of the Kokkalis Program, KSG. **Inset:** Philip Demokritou, Director, CII; Eleni Papaconstantinou, President, Harvard Club of Greece, LLM 80; Petros Koutrakis, Director, HSPH-Cyprus Program

The CII's Commitment to Outreach

The CII is pleased at the extremely positive response to its lecture series. The Institute holds regular educational lectures on a host of key environmental and public health topics designed to educate both lay and professional audiences. Below is a listing of events held in the past year:

- **Public Health: Threats, Challenges and Triumphs**

October 11, 2004

James Ware, Dean of Academic Affairs
Harvard School of Public Health

- **Respiratory Diseases and the Environment**

December 1, 2004

Douglas Dockery, Professor of Environmental Epidemiology
Harvard School of Public Health

- **Making Smoking History**

May 31, 2005

Greg Connolly, Professor of Public Health Practice

Division of Health Practice, Harvard School of Public Health

- **Obesity and Diabetes**

September 19, 2005

Christos Mantzoros, Associate Professor of Medicine

Harvard Medical School

- **The Challenge of Sustainable Growth: The Dutch Experience**

October 20, 2005

Nicolaas D. van Egmond, Director of the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (MNP), Harvard School of Public Health

- **Lung Cancer: What is Your Risk?**

November 10, 2005

David Christiani, Professor of Occupational Medicine and Epidemiology

Harvard School of Public Health

Research Projects at CII

The research agenda for the CII is ambitious and visionary. The CII will engage in research projects addressing the environment and public health problems of Cyprus and neighboring countries in Europe, the Middle East, and Northern Africa. Initiative scientists in Boston and Cyprus will work closely together to develop expertise and infrastructure needed to conduct research in environmental and public health. While the majority of the research will be conducted by local scientists in Cyprus, Harvard faculty in Boston will also be engaged in the research activities. Of particular importance will be the close collaboration between Cypriot and US researchers to develop high quality research proposals in key areas.

The rapid economic development in Cyprus over the past three decades (particularly the growth of tourism

industry) has resulted in serious environmental and public health challenges. The government of Cyprus is committed to streamlining environmental legislation and policy to ensure compliance with those of the European Union.

Scientists at the CII will focus their attention on the following areas:

- Tobacco Research
- Occupational Health Research
- Cancer Research & Control
- Air Pollution and Its Effects on Respiratory and Cardiovascular Diseases

The Institute will work with regional governments to address these environmental issues while remaining true to the goal of continued economic development. This integrated approach will be an important component of the overall development plan for Cyprus.

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ronmental and social threats to health, health policy dilemmas, and international health disparities.

Special guests included Minister Yiorgos Lillikas, Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism, Republic of Cyprus, and Eleni Papaconstantinou, President of the Harvard Club of Greece, LL.M. 80.

For more pictures from the event, see page 2.

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